

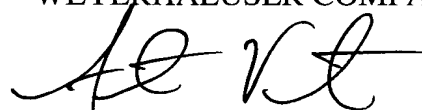
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By the present Amendment, Applicant amended Claims 4, 10, 12 and 13. Claims 4 and 12 were amended to define the impact surface of the probe as rounded. Support for this limitation is provided on page 6 of the specification, at lines 24-28. Claims 10 and 13 were amended to remove informalities. Specifically, Claim 10 was amended to depend from Claim 9. Claim 13 was amended to correct the spelling of the word "slideably" and to provide the word "and" between subsequent steps of the method of testing stiffness in wood products.

Applicant requests entry of this Amendment prior to examination. Moreover, Applicant asserts that the claims as amended are in allowable form and respectfully requests that this case be passed to issue.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

WEYERHAEUSER COMPANY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AE Victor', written over the company name.

Austin Victor

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